

considered the first, but a sighting from the same area, by the same observer, is dated April 1983 in Keith *et al.*<sup>3</sup>); most of these, however, are from Sinai, with only three from the African continent (see Appendix), at Hurghada, in September 1992 and March 1993<sup>4,5</sup> and at Abu Simbel in September 1996 (*Bull. ABC* 4: 50). There is one recent record for Morocco, at Marais du Bas Loukkos, on 3–5 January 1995 (Bergier *et al.*<sup>1</sup>). Keith *et al.*<sup>3</sup> mention only one record for the Afrotropical region, from Djibouti, of a bird moulting into second-summer plumage, at Oued Petite Doua, on 26 February 1990 (*OSME Bull.* 24: 37). Since then, three records from Ethiopia have been published. What was apparently the first Citrine Wagtail for the country was seen and photographed at Dinsho, in Bale Mountains National Park, on 7 January 1994 (*Bull. ABC* 1: 29). Two further records include another one from Bale on 15 March 1994 and an adult female at Boyo, near Hosaina, on 11 November 1994 (*Bull. ABC* 2: 62).

The species may well be overlooked in north-eastern Africa. Among the millions of Yellow Wagtails that migrate through and winter in Ethiopia, a few Citrine Wagtails may indeed easily pass unnoticed. 🦉

## References

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3. Keith, S., Urban, E.K. and Fry, C.H. (eds) 1992. *The Birds of Africa*. Vol 4. London, UK: Academic Press.
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### Appendix: Records of Citrine Wagtail *M. citreola* from Egypt collated from *OSME Bulletin* and *Sandgrouse* up to 1997.

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1. Lake Bardawil, north Sinai, on 19 April 1985<sup>2</sup>. Keith *et al.*<sup>3</sup> mention a record, from Zaranik, north Sinai, in early April 1983. Both records are by Hilary Fry and presumably refer to just one individual.
  - 2–3. Na'ama, Sharm el Sheikh, 25–26 November 1991; El Tur, Sinai, 26 November 1991 (A Grieve). *OSME Bull.* 28: 54.
  - 4–5. Female, Hurghada, 21 September 1992 (C Gibbons); Sharm-el-Sheikh, 17–18 October 1992 (S Madge/ Birdquest). *OSME Bull.* 30: 41.
  6. Hurghada, 18 March 1993 (S & M Baha el Din, J Tidy). *OSME Bull.* 29: 37.
  7. Male, Sheikh Zweid, north Sinai, 30 March 1995 (D Murdoch). *OSME Bull.* 35: 68.
  - 8–9. Singles at Nuweiba and Sharm el Sheikh sewage farm, 6 May 1996. *Sandgrouse* 18(2): 79.
  10. Single at Abu Simbel in September 1996. *Bull. ABC* 4: 50.
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## Feeding behaviour of Collared Nightjar *Caprimulgus enarratus*

Malcolm Roxby

Dans la Réserve Spéciale de Périnet, Madagascar de l'Est, un Engoulevent à collier *Caprimulgus enarratus* fut observé en train de chasser, dans la soirée du 22 novembre 1997. Le comportement de cette espèce semble avoir été peu documenté. L'oiseau était perché à environ 20 m de hauteur sur la branche supérieure dénudée d'un arbre mort surplombant une rivière en forêt primaire. De son perchoir, l'oiseau se lançait à la poursuite d'une proie volante non-identifiée et, après l'avoir capturée, retournait à la même branche, un peu à la manière d'un gobemouche. Pendant les 15 minutes environ d'observation, l'oiseau a fait plusieurs sorties semblables, retournant toujours à son perchoir. Les vols furent courts—leur distance n'excédant pas les 10 m—et des vols de chasse prolongés, tels qu'effectués par les autres espèces d'engoulevents, ne furent pas observés.

While spotlighting for owls and lemurs in the Périnet Special Reserve, eastern Madagascar on 22 November 1997, a Collared Nightjar *Caprimulgus enarratus* was observed foraging. As there appears to

be little published information on the behaviour of this species and I can find nothing in the available literature<sup>1</sup> describing its feeding habits, the following may be of interest.

The observation was made at 19.30 hr, when the weather was clear and without perceptible wind. The moon was virtually full. The bird was initially located by the red reflection of its eyes to torchlight. It was perched on the uppermost exposed branch of a dead tree at a height of approximately 20 m, on the edge of the forest in a clearing over a stream between two areas of primary woodland.

It was observed sitting motionless for several seconds before flying out to catch an unidentified airborne prey item and then returning to the same perch, in a manner not dissimilar to a flycatcher. During the c15 minutes the bird was in view, it made

several similar sorties for food always returning to the same resting place. Flights appeared to be over relatively short distances—no more than 10 m—and hawking in the manner of other nightjar species was not observed.

Unfortunately no vocalisation was heard and as far as I am aware the voice of this most enigmatic bird remains undescribed. ?

## Reference

1. Langrand, O. 1990. *Guide to the Birds of Madagascar*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

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Collared Nightjar *Caprimulgus enarratus* by Mark Andrews

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